

LITTLE GROWLING BIRD IN WENDEGO LAND



ME GOT PLENTY BAIT TO THROW IN WATER OVER FISH-NET!

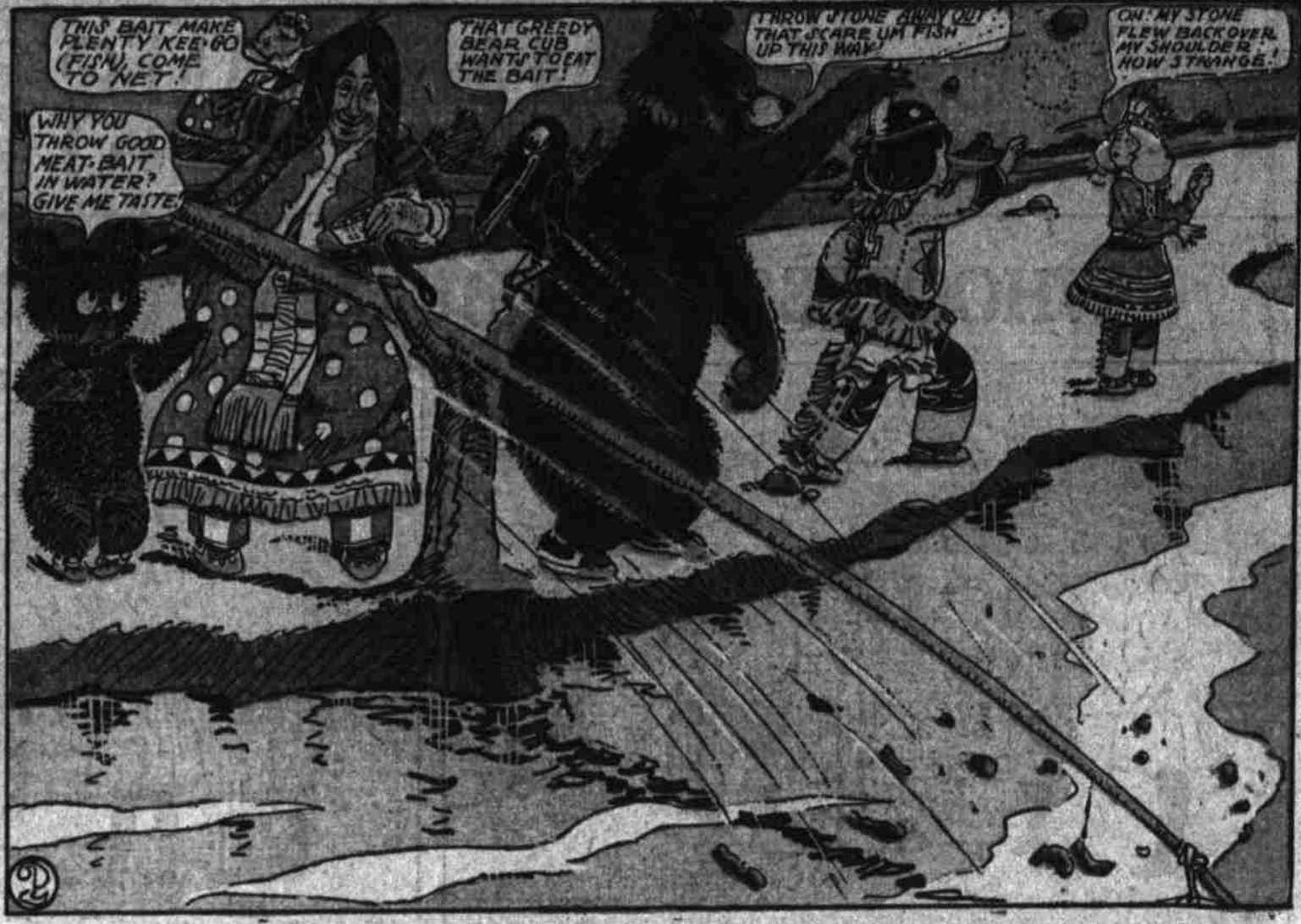
JAY, MR. CROW WHO TOLD YOU TO BOSS THE JOB?

STEADY THERE! LOWER AWAY EASY, NOW!

HEAP BIG DIP-NET, YOU SEE HIM SINK UNDER WATER? BY'MBY, COME PLENTY FISH, NEBBE, YEF!

WUFF! ME READY TO EAT SOME FISH, QUICK!

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THIS BAIT MAKE PLENTY KEE-BO (FISH), COME TO NET!

THAT GREEDY BEAR CUB WANT'TO EAT THE BAIT!

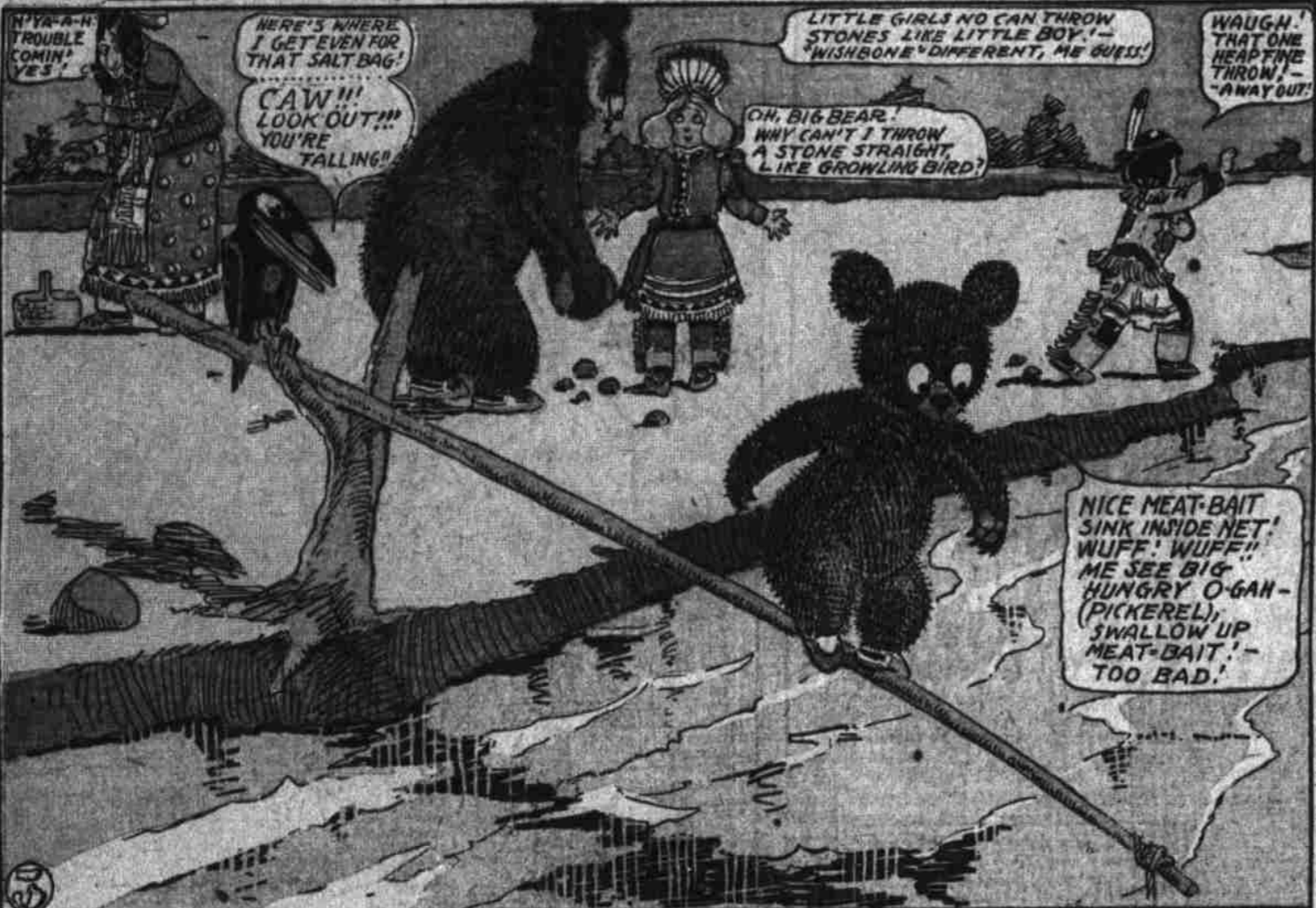
THROW Y'ONE DIP-NET UP THIS WAY!

OH! MY STONE FLEW BACK OVER MY SHOULDER! HOW STRANGE!

WHY YOU THROW GOOD MEAT-BAIT IN WATER? GIVE ME TAITE!

Last week you were told how Aundak, the Crow, tried to fool Little Bear by telling him how to Catch O-me-me, the Pigeon, by putting salt on his tail; and how Little Bear turned the tables on the Smart Crow by emptying a whole bagful of salt on HIS tail, instead! Well, Aundak kept pretty quiet for a while, and watched Nokomis and Big Bear getting ready to put the big Dip-Net in the Stream to catch some fish. The long pole that is used to raise and lower the "bag" of the net they set in the forks of a stump that stood on the brink of the Stream, and then they pushed out the net until it reached fairly deep water, where they let it sink beneath the surface. Aundak had, by this time, recovered his spirits, and hopped on the stump to boss the job of setting the net.

In the meantime, Big Bear told Growing Bird and Yellow Hair to gather all the stones they could find, and then he showed them how to throw the stones out in the stream so that they would fall in a wide circle beyond the net. This was to frighten the fish and drive them in toward the place where the net lay, and, to attract the fish to the very spot, Nokomis threw in the water, directly over the net, scraps of meat and crusts of corn bread, which she had brought along as fish bait. But Little Bear thought it was a sin to throw ANY kind of food into the water. He complained loudly about it, saying it was a very wasteful thing to do. (He wanted to EAT the bait HIMSELF, Aundak said!)



HERE'S WHERE I GET EVEN FOR THAT SALT BAG!

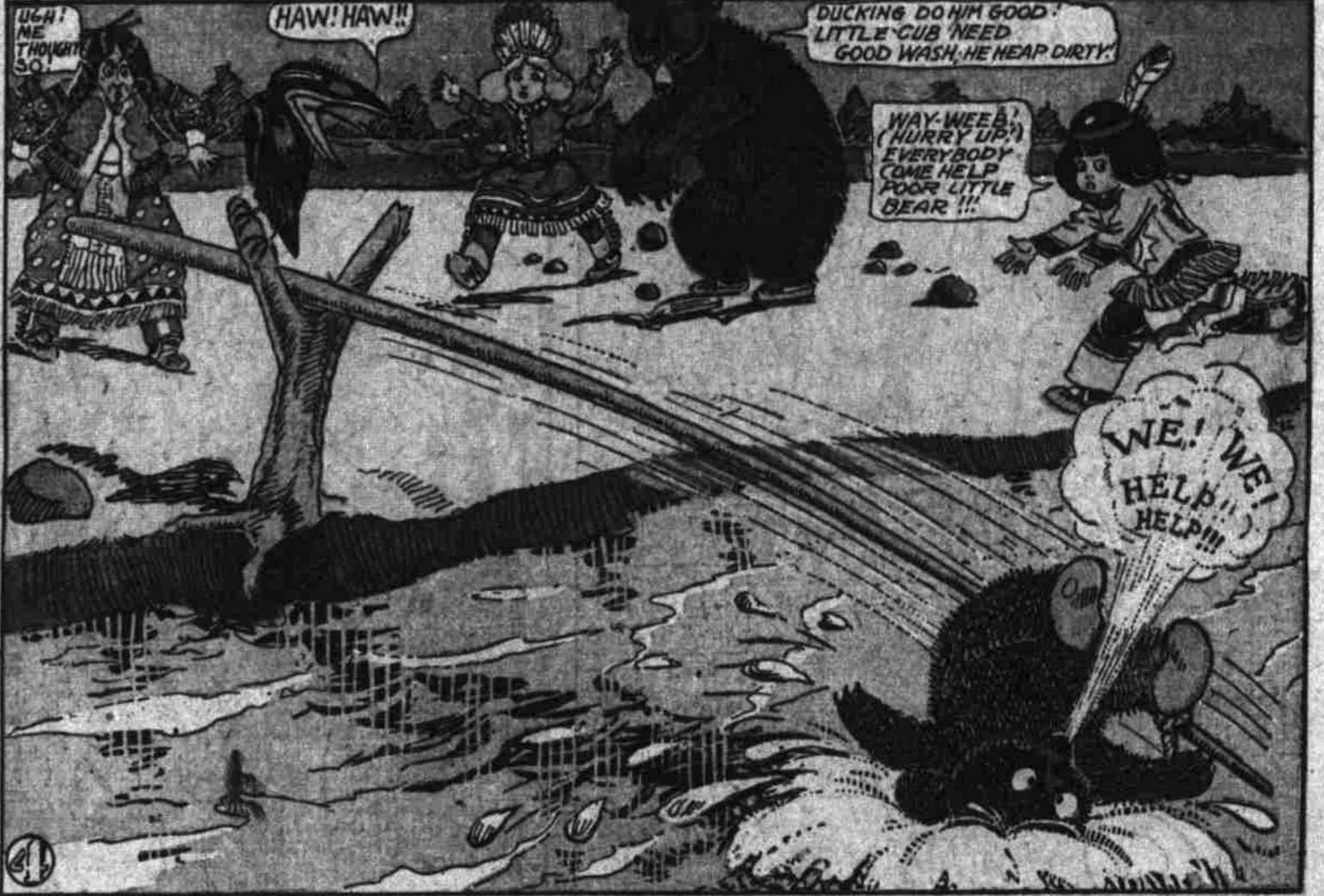
CAW!! LOOK OUT!! YOU'RE FALLING!

LITTLE GIRLS NO CAN THROW STONES LIKE LITTLE BOY! WISHBONE DIFFERENT, HE GUSS!

WALUGH! THAT ONE HEAPFINE THROW-AWAY OUT!

OH, BIG BEAR! WHY CAN'T I THROW A STONE STRAIGHT, LIKE GROWLING BIRD?

NICE MEAT-BAIT SINK INSIDE NET! WUFF! WUFF!! ME SEE BIG HUNGRY O-GAH (PICKEREL) SWALLOW UP MEAT-BAIT, TOO BAD!



DUCKING DO HIM GOOD! LITTLE CUB NEED GOOD WASH, HE NEAP DIRTY!

WAY-NEE! HURRY! EVERYBODY COME HELP POOR LITTLE BEAR!!

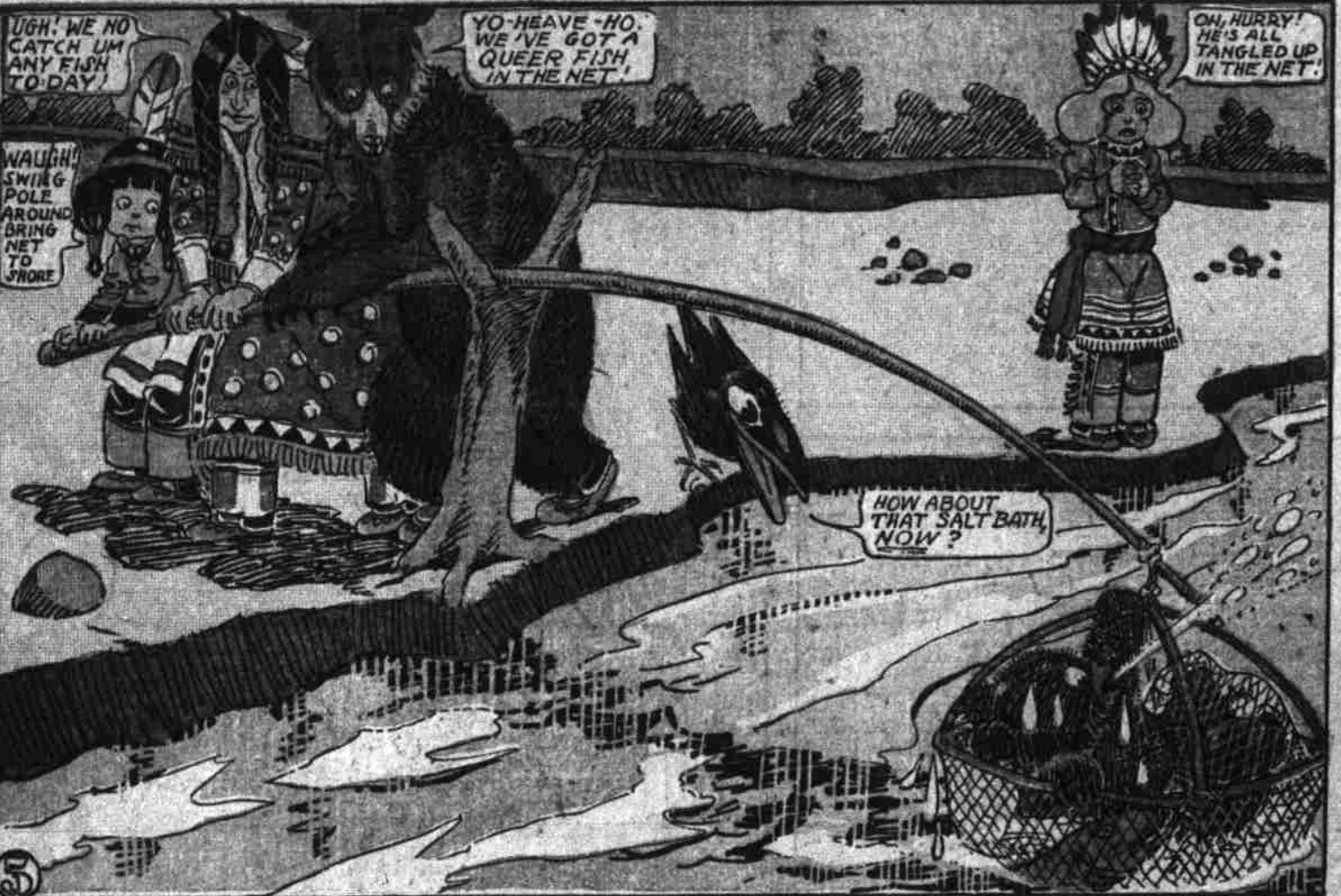
WE! WE! HELP!!

UGH! ME THOUGHT SO!

HAW! HAW!!

Growing Bird, like most little boys who live outside of towns, could throw stones very straight, and to quite a distance, but not so Famy Yellow Hair! The stones SHE tried to throw seemed to fly in all directions except where she aimed them. Somehow, Girls cannot throw a stone, or a ball as straight, or as far, as a Boy; but, then, they can skip-the-rope much better, as a rule, and this evens things up. But to return to Little Bear: He felt rather vain on account of getting the better of Aundak in the matter of the "salt" joke, and he thought he could afford to show off a little. So, when Nokomis went off to get more bait; he climbed the stump, and, standing upright, walked boldly out on the pole of the Dip-Net! He kept his balance very well until Aundak, seeing a chance to get even with him, took a hand.

The Sly Old Crow jumped up and down on the other end of the pole and "joggled" it a little. Then he called out suddenly, "LOOK OUT! YOU'RE FALLING!" and, of course, Little Bear was so startled that he lost his balance and tumbled headfirst into the water and into the mouth of the Net! It all happened so quickly that no one noticed the accident (except Aundak), until the sound of the LOUD SPLASH was heard! Of course Nokomis and the Children came running to the rescue as soon as they saw the fix Little Bear was in, but Big Bear did not appear to worry over it. He knew that Little Bear was in no great danger, because ALL the Bear People, both Black and Brown, can swim like Ducks! So he only chuckled, and said: "Woo! Little Bear need a wash; heap dirty; little swim do him good!"



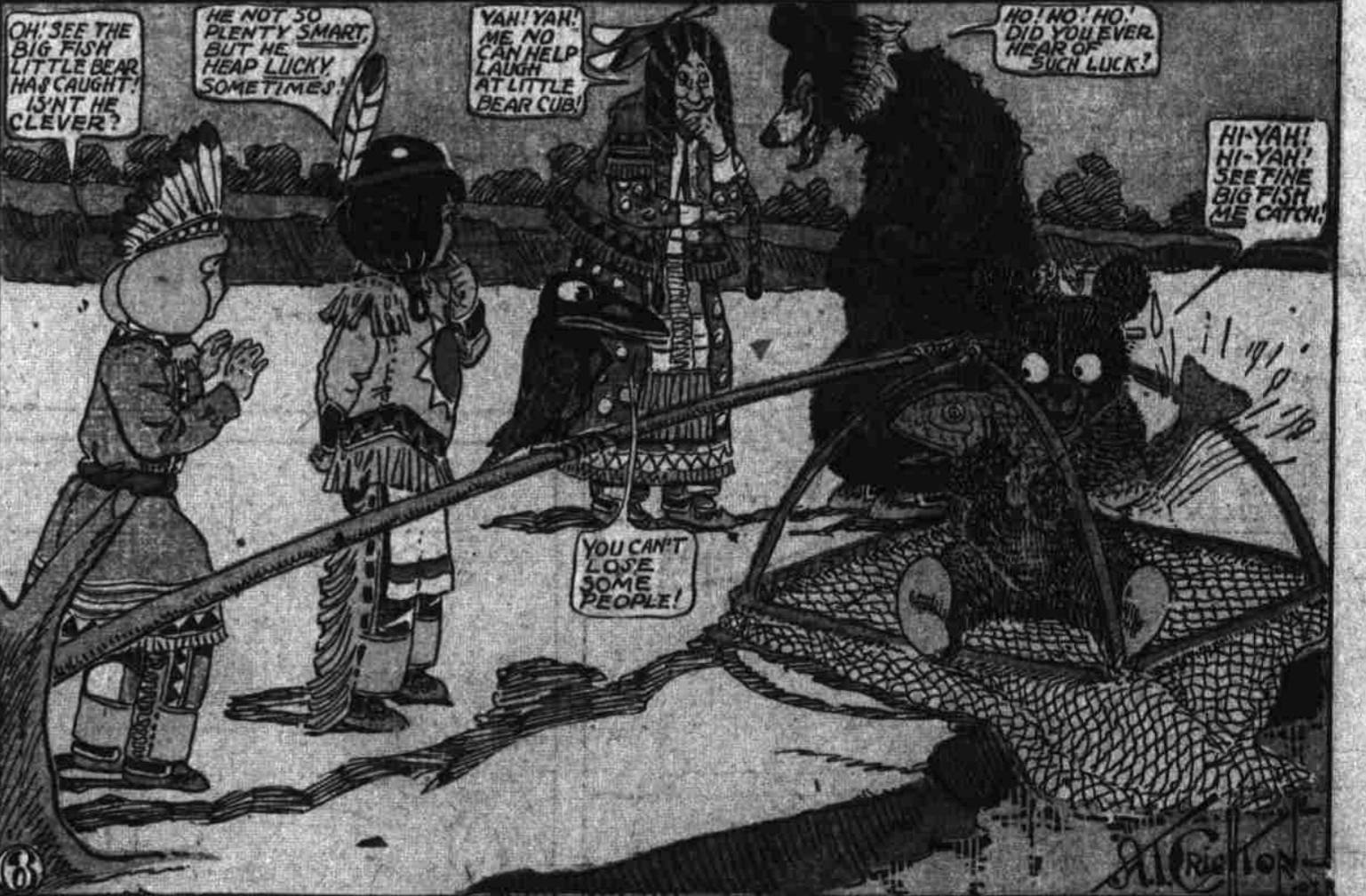
UGH! WE NO CATCH UM ANY FISH TO DAY!

WALUGH! SWING POLE AROUND BRING NET TO SHORE!

YO-HEAVE-HO, WE'VE GOT A QUEER FISH, IN THE NET!

OH, HURRY! HE'S ALL TANGLED UP IN THE NET!

HOW ABOUT THAT SALT BATH, NOW?



OH! SEE THE BIG FISH HAS CAUGHT! ISN'T HE CLEVER?

HE NOT SO PLENTY SMART, BUT HE HEAP LUCKY SOMETIMES!

YAH! YAH! ME NO CAN HELP LAUGH AT LITTLE BEAR CUB!

YOU CAN'T LOVE SOME PEOPLE!

HI-YAH! HI-YAH! SEE FINE BIG FISH HE CATCH!

HO! HO! HO! DID YOU EVER HEAR OF SUCH LUCK?

When Little Bear came up gasping (on account of having swallowed a lot of water), he made a fearful fuss and turmoil. He had entangled his feet in the meshes of the Net and could not get them free. Besides, there was a big, fierce-looking Fish, O-gah, the Pickerel, caught in the net and jumping against him, and it frightened him so that he bawled loudly for help—just as he always did when in trouble. When Yellow Hair saw how he was tangled up in the Net she was very much distressed and begged Nokomis to hurry and lift him clear of the water. Big Bear took hold of the end of the pole, and, Nokomis and Growing Bird helping, they soon raised the Net and swung it around until they were able to land it, and Little Bear, safe on the dry land.

As soon as the Little Cub felt the ground under his feet all his confidence (and impudence) returned. He saw O-gah, the Pickerel, wriggling beside him and he made a grab and caught the fish in his fore paws, holding it against his breast in spite of its struggles. Then he cried out, boastfully, "Hi-yah! Hi-yah! See heap big fish ME catch all by myself!" He looked so ridiculous sitting there, dripping, with the big fish struggling in his "arms" that Nokomis and Big Bear laughed till their sides ached! Aundak couldn't see the joke, but made sneering remarks about "the luck of foolish people," which were rather uncalled for. And so, as it often happens, the joke we aim to play on another turns out to HIS advantage—which makes us feel cheap. But Little Bear was not often so lucky. And NEXT week—can you guess what will happen then? A. T. C.

